Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of determining availability of members of a contact list in a wireless communication system, wherein the method comprises:

determining an availability status of members of a contact list by receiving messages at a controller that indicate changes in availability of client devices associated with the contact list, the contact list corresponding to a particular client device; and

transmitting from the controller to the particular client device without a request from the particular client device information regarding the availability of the client devices only when a change has occurred in the availability of one or more of the [[a]] client devices.

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method includes:

storing the changes in availability of the client devices in a queue; and

periodically transmitting the changes in availability that are in the queue to the particular client device[s].

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method includes:

starting a timer;

storing the changes in availability of the client devices in a queue;

when the timer expires, transmitting the changes in availability that are in the queue to the particular client device[s]; and

resetting the timer.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein, if the transmitting has been performed, the method includes delaying a subsequent transmission of contact list availability information until a time interval has passed.

5. (Currently amended) A method of indicating availability of a wireless client device that is associated with a contact list in a wireless communication system, wherein the method comprises:

detecting a change in availability of the wireless client device;

when a change in availability of the wireless client device is detected, transmitting a message from the wireless client device to a controller, wherein the message signals the change in availability to the controller; and

receiving from the controller, based on a periodic determination of whether changes in availability of other client devices associated with the contact list have occurred and only when changes in availability of the other client devices have occurred, a message indicating the availability of the other client devices.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method further includes receiving from the controller a message that indicates the availability of the other client devices

associated with the contact list, the message including all changes in availability of the other client devices since a previous periodic determination of changes in availability of the other client devices ~~when a change has occurred in the availability of any of the other client devices~~.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method further includes receiving from the controller a message that indicates only changes in the availability of other client devices associated with the contact list ~~when a change has occurred in the availability of any of the other client devices~~.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the client device is being turned off.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the client device is moving out of a geographic service area of the wireless communication system.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the client device moves out of a first service area and into a second service area of the wireless communication system.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first service area is a digital service area and the second area is an analog service area.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the client device is associated with more than one contact list.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the transmitting is performed only when a change in availability of the client device is detected.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the method is performed by a mobile telephone.

15. (Currently amended) A method of updating the availability of members of a contact list in a wireless client device, wherein the method comprises:

receiving from a controller a wireless message concerning the availability of other client devices, which are associated with the contact list, only when a change has occurred in the availability of at least one of the other client devices, the receiving based on a periodic determination of whether changes in availability of other client devices associated with the contact list have occurred; and

storing information from the wireless message concerning the availability of the other client devices in a memory of the wireless client device.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the method includes:

detecting a change in availability of the wireless client device; and

when a change in availability of the wireless client device is detected, transmitting a wireless message from the wireless client device to the controller, wherein the message signals the change in availability of the wireless client device to the controller.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the wireless client device is being turned off.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the wireless client device is moving out of a geographic service area of the wireless communication system.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the method includes detecting a change in availability when the wireless client device moving out of a first service area and into a second service area of the wireless communication system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the first service area is a digital service area and the second area is an analog service area.

21. (Currently amended) The method according to [claim 14] claim 15, wherein the method is performed by a mobile telephone.